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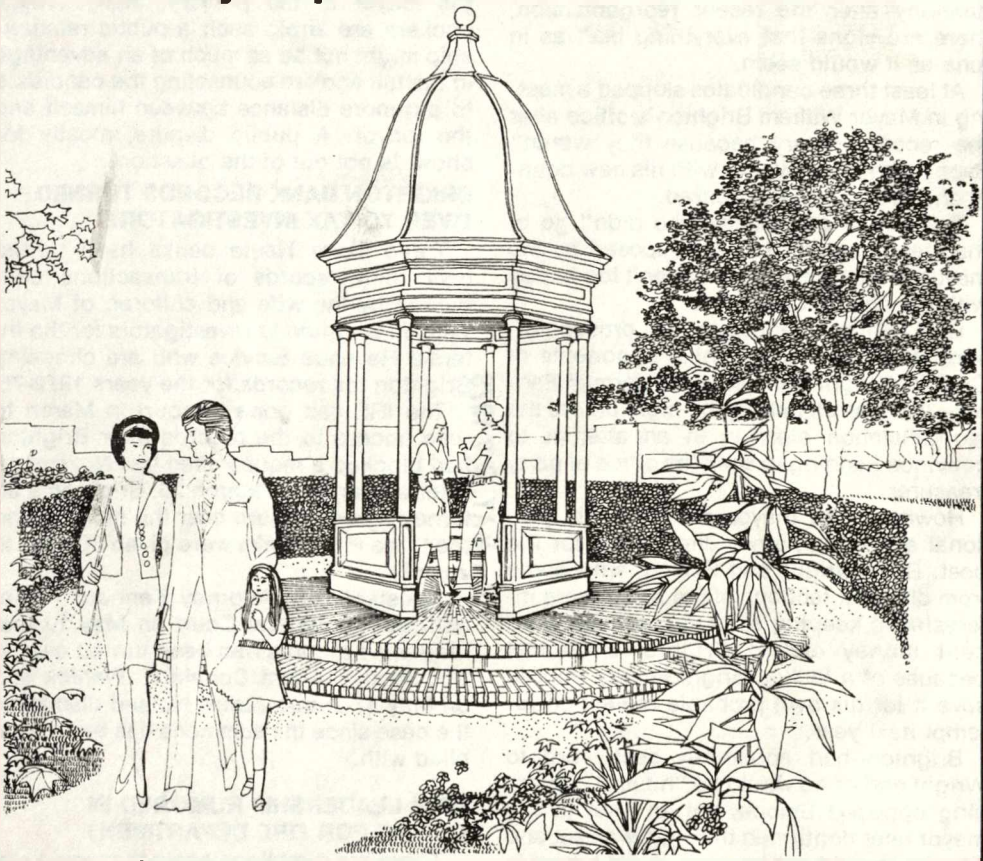
# Wiley cupola comes back home



*The cupola that stood on top of the old Wiley High School building will find a new home on the grounds of the Vigo County Public Library, now under construction on the former Wiley site, Seventh and Walnut streets. Above is an artist's rendering of how the cupola will be used as a gazebo, just south of the corner entrance on Seventh Street. The base will be about 15 feet in diameter. The cupola itself is seven feet in diameter and about 18 feet high. It weighs about 1,500 pounds. It was purchased for $2,100 by the Associated Alumni of Wiley High School in February, 1972, after the school had been torn down. It had been on the old high school since it was built as Terre Haute High School in 1886.*

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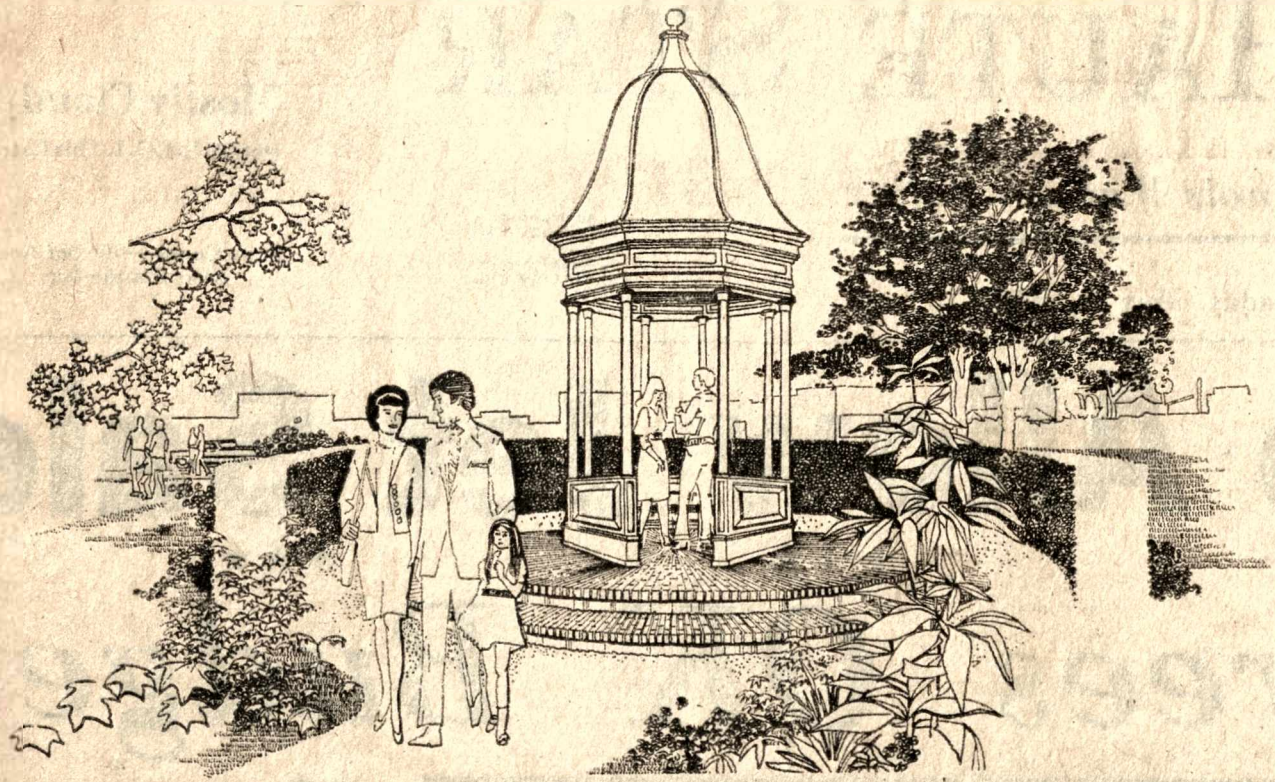

SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW — The old Wiley High School cupola, salvaged from the old building by a group of Wiley alumni and donated to the Vigo County Public Library, will be located on the library grounds as a shelter/gazebo. The artist's drawing shows how the cupola will be fixed on a brick base providing an area approximately seven feet in diameter where library patrons may relax and enjoy the scenery. The plans have been approved by local attorney Victor E. Aldridge Jr. who spearheaded the drive to save the cupola.

# Wiley Cupola To Be Placed At New Library

By ELIZABETH CIANCONE
Star Staff Writer

Although the Vigo County Library building will stand as an example of the progress of the community, plans include an acknowledgement of the distinguished past of Terre Haute in general and of the site of the library in particular.

The old cupola from Wiley High School, which occupied the site, was saved to be sold to the highest bidder when the former school was razed. The funds were to be donated to the library construction fund.

Terre Haute attorney Victory E. Aldridge Jr. and Dr. E. Grey Dimond, M.D., Kansas City, Mo., both Wiley graduates, launched a fund drive to preserve the cupola as a permanent monument rather than as an "individual's souvenir."

The cupola was purchased as a result of their efforts and was donated to the library with the understanding it be incorporated as a part of the site development for the new building.

Plans approved by the Vigo County Library Board call for the cupola to be restored as a gazebo to be mounted on a brick platform on the Seventh Street side of the new building near the main entrance.

The copper weather vane, formerly surmounting the cupola, will not be included on the restored structure, but will be kept safe from vandals and on display in the building.

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MEMORIAL TO WILEY — Local construction employees work on restoring the cupola tower that sat on top of the old Wiley High School building. The cupola has been re-erected at the new Vigo County Public Library now under construction at the old high school site at the intersection of Seventh and Walnut streets. The tower, reportedly about 90 years old, was purchased by donations from about 20 Wiley alumni. The Wiley building was demolished after it was closed in 1971.

SEP 19 1978

House of Photography

Public Library Community Affairs File REFERENC

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